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October 17, 1902

Cholera conditions not improving—Statement of cases and deaths since outbreak.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, September 16, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith abstract of bills of health for the week ended September 13, 1902. There were inspected 3 vessels having a total personnel of 310 crew and 698 passengers; 440 steerage passengers were bathed and 562 pieces of baggage disinfected by formaldehyd.

The official report of contagious diseases and deaths in Yokohama for the week ended September 13 is as follows: Enteric fever, 12 cases, no deaths; diphtheria, 2 cases, no deaths; dysentery, 9 cases, 1 death. No cases of grave quarantinable disease were reported.

Generally speaking, the cholera situation in Japan shows no amelioration. Recently the disease has made its appearance in Hakodate, an important shipping town of the Hok Kaido, a district hitherto free from infection during the present outbreak.

According to official returns up to the 13th instant, the total number of cholera cases reported in the Empire since the outbreak this year is 7,360, of which 3,060 proved fatal. Recently, the number of new cases reported daily shows an average of about 250. Apparently, these statistics do not include suspected cases, which in some localities are more numerous than the real cases and attended by an almost equally great mortality. Reports up to the 9th instant show for Okayama Ken a total since outbreak of 1,898 cases with 1,287 deaths. Reports up to the 10th instant from Kagawa Ken show a total of 1,924 cases. The ports of Nagasaki, Kobe, Moji, and Hakodate are at present infected.

Respectfully,

DUNLOP MOORE,
Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

MEXICO.

Sanitary conditions and prevalence of yellow fever at Merida.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, September 29, 1902.

SIR: In obedience to Bureau order, dated September 10, 1902, authorizing me to visit Merida for the purpose of securing accurate information regarding the sanitary condition of the city and prevalence of yellow fever, I have the honor to submit the following report:

September 26, 1902, I visited Merida, and found the city in a very bad sanitary condition. There is no sewerage system, and the narrow streets are either filled with mud and water or limestone dust. The soil is nonabsorbent, and water is gotten rid of only by evaporation.

I was informed that a contract had been signed and work is soon to be started for putting the streets in a better sanitary condition by paving them.

All cases of yellow fever have to be reported to the registro civil, under penalty of a fine; they are removed to the lazaretto which is situated on the outskirts of the city.

During the week ended September 26, 1902, there were reported in the office of the registro civil 7 cases of yellow fever, with 5 deaths. Twenty-eight deaths from other causes were as follows: Tuberculosis, 3; dysentery, 5; alcoholism, 2; typhoid fever, 18. Total deaths from all causes, 35.

The officially estimated population is 60,000. It is interesting to

note that the death rate is not as high, relatively, as it is in Progreso, where they have the gulf breeze and a sandy soil that at once absorbs the rain.

Respectfully,

EDWARD T. HARGRAVE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, *October 4, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report on the conditions existing in Merida, for the week ended October 3, 1902: Present officially estimated population, 60,000. Number of cases of yellow fever, 4; number of deaths from yellow fever, 1. It was impossible to get the total number of deaths from all causes owing to the absence from the office of one of the clerks. The sanitary condition of the city is still very bad, worse than last week owing to a heavy rain.

Respectfully,

EDWARD T. HARGRAVE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

Report from Progreso.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, *October 4, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port for the week ended October 3, 1902: Present officially estimated population, 5,000. There have been no cases or deaths from yellow fever or other quarantinable diseases, and the sanitary condition of the port remains unchanged. The following report of deaths was made at the office of the juez civil for the week: Tuberculosis, 1; accident, 1; malaria, 2; erysipelas, 1; cerebritis, 1; stillbirth, 1. Total, 7. Twenty health certificates were issued to passengers for Cuba and the United States. Six vessels with a personnel of 154 officers and crew, and 34 passengers were inspected.

Respectfully,

EDWARD T. HARGRAVE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

Reports from Tampico—Yellow fever—Precautions against propagation of mosquitoes—Mortality statistics for period of five years and six months ended June 30, 1902.

TAMPICO, MEXICO, *October 1, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith an abstract of the bills of health issued at this office for the week ended September 27, 1902. There were officially recorded during the same period a total of 12 deaths, caused as follows: Yellow fever, 1; pernicious icterus, 1; malaria, 3; pneumonia, 2; tuberculosis, 2, and miscellaneous, 3.

The above death from yellow fever, the first recorded this year, is 1 of the 2 cases of that disease reported last week. Since their occurrence the authorities have issued an order requiring householders, under penalty, to securely cover all collections of water on their premises, in order to prevent access of mosquitoes with a view to limiting their propagation.

For the thirty days of September there were officially recorded 62 deaths from all causes, in a population according to the last census, of